



1630.

Ad generalem Sessionem pacis pro Comitatu predicto tent. apud Chelmissford in dicto Comitatu die Martis Quinto die Octobris Anno Regni Domini nostri Caroli Dei gratia, Anglia, Scotia, Francia, & Hibernia Regis fidei defensoris, &c. Sexto. Coram Roberto Comite Warr. Gulielmo Domino Maynard, Harbottello Grimston milite & Baronetto, Thoma Cheeke mil. Henrico Mildmay de Moulsham mil. Nicholao Coote mil. Thoma Wiseman mil. Henrico Mildmay de Graces mil. Artburo Herris mil. Gulielmo Maxey mil. Humfreydo Mildmay mil. Thoma Fanshaw mil. Drugone Deane mil. Gulielmo Towse Iohanne Darcy, Iohanne Brampston servientibus ad legem, Roberto Aylet Iuris Civilis Doctore, Henrico Gent, Martino Lumley, Iohanne Wright, Iohanne Argall, Roberto Wiseman, Iacobo Heron, & socijs suis Iusticiarijs dicti Domini Regis ad pacem in dicto Com. conservand. Nec non ad diversas felonias, &c. audiend. & terminand. assignat. inter alia ordinat. est ut sequitur.



HEREAS the Lords of his Majesties most honourable Privie Councill by his Highnesse expresse direction have by their severall Letters commended unto us severall instructions tending to the prevention of the scarcity and dearth of Corne, and other Victuall, and to the abatement of the price thereof, already growne to very great and high rates, with speciall charge to put the said instructions in execution within all the parts of this County. It is thereupon, and for the reformation of some other abuses tending to the generall and publicke prejudice and grievance of this County, ordered.

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First, that the Iustices of peace of every division within this County do with al convenient speed before the next Quarter Sessions meet together, and doe so meet and assemble themselves once at the least betweene every Quarter Sessions, to enquire, and take care, and course for the due execution of the severall Articles hereafter following, and of all such other directions as we shall hereafter receive from his Majesty, or from the Lords of his Privy Councell.

Secondly, that the said Iustices of peace at their first meeting do suppress the third part at the least of the Ale-houses within every severall division: It being conceived both by his Majesty and the Lords of his Councell, and so intimated to us by the said Letters, that the great number of Ale-houses is a very great wast and consumption of Malt, already growne to an extreame price.

Thirdly, that no Inne-keepers, or Ale-house-keepers doe permit or suffer any the Inhabitants, in, or neere unto the Parishes where the said Innes or Ale-houses are situate, to sit drinking or tipling in their houses contrary to the lawes in that case made, and provided: the true use of Innes and Ale-houses being to entertaine passengers and travellers, and not for the maintenance of riot and drunkenness.

Fourthly, that no Inne-keepers, Ale-house-keepers, or Victuallers be permitted to sell lesse than one full Ale-quart of the best Ale, or Beere, and two quarts of the second sort for a penny upon penalty of twenty shillings for every default, which defaults are diligently to be enquired after, and carefully to be levied and disposed to the use and reliefe of the poore of the Parish where such defaults shall be made according to the Law in that behalfe established. And for the better observation

observation thereof it is further ordered that no Brewer, Inne-keeper, Ale-house-keeper, or Victualler be permitted to brew any Beer or Ale of greater strength than according to two bushels of Malt to one hoghead at the most.

Fifthly, that all such as shall keepe unlicenced Ale-houses, or shall use their Innes as Ale-houses to the maintenance of excesse and riot in drinking, be from time to time complained of unto the Iustices of peace next adjoyning, and that such Iustices of peace upon such complaint, and due prooffe thereof, doe forthwith execute the penalty of the Law upon such offenders, and that in default of such complaint all such offenders be presented to the said Iustices at their meetings aforesaid by the high and petty Constables of the severall Parishes within every such division, who are likewise to present at the said meetings at the furthest all and every the offences against any of these Articles, and condigne punishment to be inflicted upon them for neglecting their duties in making such presentments.

Sixthly, that the said Iustices of peace take speciall care for suppressing the unnecessary number of Malsters within this County, and confine the residue to such a proportion, as that as much Barley (as with conveniency may) be preserved for bread corne in this time of scarcitie of corne, and the penalties to be duely levied upon all such Malsters as shall not conforme themselves therein according to the lawes in that behalfe provided.

Seventhly, that the said Iustices of peace within their severall divisions doe take speciall care and order from time to time to have the Markets well supplied with Corne, and other Victuall, and to use the best indeavours they lawfully may for the

abating of the price thereof, especially that the poorer sort of people may have graine and other victuall at as easie rates and prices as can lawfully be procured. And that they with all care and diligence prevent and hinder all transportation, forestalling, engrossing, and regrating of Corne, and other victuall, and to punish all offenders therein, by inflicting upon them the uttermost penalties which by law they can.

Eightly, that there be speciall care had that Millers doe not take excessive toll, but that the offenders therein be carefully enquired after, and duely presented to the Iustices at their meetings aforesaid for such course to be taken for reformation of that abuse as shall be agreeable to law and iustice.

Ninthly, that no Rogues, Vagabonds, or other loose, idle or dissolute persons, either English or Irish, be suffered to begg, or wander, within any part of this County, but that as well the lawes for punishing them, as for inflicting penalties upon such as shall relieve them, or upon the Constables for not punishing them, be duely observed and put in execution. And that the petty Constables doe whip and send away by passes with guides to the place of their birth or last settling according to the lawes, the ordinary sort of the said Rogues, loose, idle, and dissolute wandring persons, and such as are Irish, to punish and send them away by guides and passes as aforesaid unto the next Port for their transportation into Ireland according to his Majesties late Proclamation in that behalfe. And that the said Constables doe apprehend & carry all such of the as wander under the name of souldiers or mariners, or shall appeare to be fearfull or dangerous to the inferiour sort of people, before some, or one of the next Iustices of the peace to be further proceeded against according to the Law: And because the remissnesse and negligence of
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the said petty Constables is generally observed to be a speciall cause of the swarming of Rogues in all parts of this County, the high Constables are specially required within their severall divisions to take care thereof, and from time to time to enquire of such defaults of the said petty Constables, and of such as shall relieve the said Rogues contrary to the Law, and to informe the next Iustices of peace thereof, and to present the same at the furthest to the Iustices at their said fixe weeks meetings. And that the said Iustices of peace doe at their said meetings exact a strict account thereof from the said high Constables of their care and proceedings therein, the rather for that those Rogues and wandering persons doe now in this time of scarcity eat up the bread of the true poore Inhabitants by preventing them of that charity which otherwise would be afforded to them.

Tenthly, for the better execution of the Lawes against the said Rogues, and other wandering persons, the high Constables within every division are to appoint watches in the night, and wardings in the day for the apprehension of the said Rogues, and other wandering persons; this to be done at such times and places as the said high Constables shall thinke fittest for the apprehension of them. And the said high Constables are also once every moneth at least to cause privie searches to be made in every Parish within their severall divisions for apprehension and punishment of the said offenders.

Eleventhly, the high and petty Constables are to present to said Iustices of peace at their said fixe weekes meetings, and to cause then to be brought before them all such young men and women being unmarried as live at their owne hands out of service, and others though married, and householders that live idly, or will not worke for reasonable wages, or that

wast, and consume in riot, drinking or play, what they get by their worke, suffering their wives and children in the meane time to be pinched with want of foode, and other necessities, and when sicknesse, age or death commeth, then leave their wives and children to the charge of the Parish.

L Astly, because the high wayes within this County are in great decay, occasioned principally by the neglect of the workes appointed by the Law both with labourers and Carts, and by not scouring the ditches adjoyning to the said high wayes, and the water-courses for conveying the water out of the said ditches, and by not lopping and cutting the trees, and bushes adjoyning to the same high wayes. It is ordered, that the Iustices of peace within every division doe take speciall care for the cleansing and scouring of all the said ditches, and water-courses, especially such as adjoyne unto the great and high Roades: and for the speedy carrying away of all such earth as shall be throwne into the high wayes out of any such ditches or water-courses. And because many are this yeare behinde with their workes, some with labourers, and others with carts, whereof some have beene presented at this Quarter Sessions. It is now ordered, that all the Surveyours of the high wayes within this County which have not already presented the defaults in the said workes, doe at the next Quarter Sessions of the peace to be holden for this County, make a just and true presentment of all such defaults within their severall precincts, and in default of such presentment the penalty offorty shillings to be inflicted upon every such Surveyour for not presenting such defaults unto the next Iustice of the peace according to the Law in that behalfe provided. And that the Iustices of peace within their severall divisions doe by their owne view informe themselves before the said next Quarter Sessions of all defaults in not scouring the said ditches and

and water-courses, in not carrying away the earth throwne out of the said ditches into the high-ways, and in not lopping and cutting the trees and bushes in or adjoyning unto the same: and that the Iustices doe at the said next Quarter Sessions present all such offences (as upon their owne view) that the offenders may be punished according to the Law.

*Per Richardum Dove
Clericum pacis.*

